



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER PHILIP ANGELIDES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TREASURER ANGELIDES SELLS VETERANS GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

SACRAMENTO, CA – California State Treasurer Philip Angelides conducted a bond sale for the Department of Veterans Affairs on March 28, 2000, selling a total of \$66,500,000 in general obligation bonds at a true interest cost of 5.792 percent.

The bonds were rated AA, Aa3, and AA- by Fitch IBCA, Inc., Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's, respectively.

The bonds were sold in a negotiated sale by a team of underwriters led by Merrill Lynch & Co., with Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. and Lehman Brothers serving as co-senior managers. Co-managers included Banc of America Securities LLC, Fleet Securities, Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co., J.P. Morgan Securities, Inc., Loop Capital Markets, Mischler Financial Group, Inc., Prudential Securities Inc., Sutro & Company, and Sutter Securities Inc. Hawkins, Delafield & Wood acted as bond counsel and Quateman & Zidell LLP provided disclosure counsel services. Public Resources Advisory Group served as financial advisor.

The bonds will be used to fund new Cal-Vet mortgage loans under the Farm and Home Purchase Program. The Department of Veterans Affairs began making long-term, low interest loans available to qualified veterans after World War I. Since its inception in 1921, this program has assisted over 407,000 California veterans to purchase farms and homes throughout the State.

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